

It's nice to see that the FCC has abrogated its responsibility to ensure that the public airwaves (i.e., my airwaves) are used in a manner that is consistent with the public interest. I make this comment in regard to its decision to allow Sinclair broadcasting to air political propaganda under the guise of "news" in airing the anti-Kerry documentary. In making this decision, the FCC has decided to allow a business to use its control of the public airwaves to intervene in an election in a way that is helpful to its economic interests--after all, the tenor of the anti-Kerry program will help President Bush in the election, a president who is much more favorably predisposed toward the economic interests of the business community than Senator Kerry--and contrary to the public interest. I write that it is "nice" to know that the FCC has abrogated its responsibility--even though I do not like its undemocratic decision. It's "nice" because this decision has really made me realize that, frankly, the policy outcomes my government is rendering are not legitimate. They consistently favor the business community at the expense of the public interest; such outcomes ignore public opinion and are not legitimate. You may want to take note that once a government's decisions are not viewed as legitimate, it does not persist for very long. Everyone does not have to agree with a decision for them to view outcomes as legitimate--but what's necessary is that they view the process as fair. I view this process as corrupted: here you have a Republican FCC chairman protecting the interest of a Republican President to ensure that the public airwaves are used (in a way they should not be used for) to tilt the most vital of democratic processes, i.e., elections. This is not a legitimate action.